



U.S. Immigration  
and Customs  
Enforcement

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# News Release

## **ICE LAUNCHES WEB-BASED SEVIS TRAINING FOR SCHOOL OFFICIALS AS NEW SCHOOL YEAR BEGINS**

WASHINGTON, D.C. – With thousands of foreign students returning to the United States this month for the beginning of the new school year, the Department of Homeland Security U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) today announced the launch of a new Internet-based training program to help school officials more effectively use the Student and Exchange Visitor Information System (SEVIS).

SEVIS is a web-based system for maintaining information on international students and exchange visitors in the United States. Administered by the Student and Exchange Visitor Program (SEVP), a division of ICE, SEVIS was created to facilitate foreign student and exchange visitor participation in America's outstanding academic and cultural exchange programs, while balancing the homeland security needs of the nation.

The new web-based training course, entitled: "SEVIS Training for School Officials," is designed to provide instruction to Designated School Officials (DSOs) and Principal Designated School Officials (PDSOs) on how to use SEVIS software. The course is available online, 24 hours a day for "anytime/anywhere" learning.

Previously, school officials had to rely on a user manual, with limited scope for SEVIS training. This new web-based training course provides information on the regulations associated with the data requirements in SEVIS and describes the roles and responsibilities of students and DSOs. The training is also designed to assist new DSOs who may need additional guidance on completing tasks required to update and maintain student information in SEVIS. In addition, this course will serve as a reference tool for seasoned DSOs to refresh their skills.

The web-based training is an effective mechanism for training the roughly 18,000 school officials dispersed across the United States and for providing a consistent interpretation of regulatory requirements. It is designed to be self-paced and can be completed at varying intervals and times.

Upon completion of each lesson in the module, the web-based training tool will inform the user when he/she has completed a lesson. This will allow the trainee to identify his/her place in the course if they are unable to complete it during one sitting. Web-based training modules will be linked to both regulations and frequently asked questions. A link to the course can be found on the SEVP website at [www.ice.gov/sevis](http://www.ice.gov/sevis).

ICE views this web-based training as an iterative process. ICE plans to continuously update the modules with new information and enhance its user-friendliness over time. Any comments or suggestions are welcomed and would be appreciated. Please email them to [SEVIS.Source@dhs.gov](mailto:SEVIS.Source@dhs.gov) and include the phrase “web-based training” in the subject line.

# ICE #

*ICE, the primary investigative arm of the Department of Homeland Security, was established to bring a unified focus to the enforcement of U.S. immigration and customs laws, with the principal goal of preventing violations by terrorists and other criminals who threaten the nation's security.*